

Application No. 10/668,766
Amendment dated July 13, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated April 22, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 and 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of covering said wire with a biocompatible finish coating. A method of making a wire comprising the steps of:~~

drilling a plurality of apertures in a parent material;

filling at least one said aperture with a filament;

repeatedly drawing and thermally-treating said parent material with said filaments embedded therein to form said wire; and

covering said wire with a biocompatible finish coating.

Claims 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method of making a wire, comprising the steps of:

drilling a plurality of apertures in a parent material;

filling at least one said aperture with a filament;

repeatedly drawing and thermally-treating said parent material with said filaments embedded therein to form said wire; and

opening said apertures to the outside circumference of said wire whereby a grooved wire is formed.

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Claim 6 (original): The method of Claim 5, wherein said filaments comprise metallic materials.

Claim 7 (original): The method of Claim 5, further comprising the step of covering said wire with a biocompatible finish coating.

Claims 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method of making a wire, comprising the steps of:

drilling a plurality of apertures in a parent material;

filling at least one said aperture with a filament;

repeatedly drawing and thermally-treating said parent material with said filaments embedded therein to form said wire; and

removing said filament from said parent material to form a cavity within said wire
whereby a wire with longitudinal grooves therein is formed.

Claim 10 (original): The method of Claim 9, wherein said filaments comprise metallic materials.

Claim 11 (original): The method of Claim 9, further comprising the step of covering said wire with a biocompatible finish coating.

Claims 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method of making a wire, comprising the steps of:

drilling a plurality of apertures in a parent material;

filling said apertures with filaments;

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repeatedly drawing and thermally-treating said parent material with said filaments embedded therein to form said wire;

removing said filaments from said parent material to form cavities within said wire; and

finishing said wire to open said cavities to the outside circumference of said wire
whereby a grooved wire is formed.

Claim 14 (original): The method of Claim 13, wherein said filaments comprise metallic materials.

Claim 15 (original): The method of Claim 13, further comprising the step of covering said wire with a biocompatible finish coating.

Claims 16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method of making a wire, comprising the steps of:

drilling a plurality of apertures in a parent material;

filling said apertures with filaments;

repeatedly drawing and thermally-treating said parent material with said filaments embedded therein to form said wire;

removing said filaments from said parent material to form cavities within said wire;

finishing said wire to provide access to each of said cavities from the outside of said wire;
and

filling said cavities with a filler material whereby a wire with longitudinal filled grooves is formed.

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Claim 18 (original): The method of Claim 17 wherein said filaments comprise metallic materials.

Claim 19 (original): The method of Claim 17, further comprising the step of covering said wire with a biocompatible finish coating of metal oxide, ceramic oxide, particulate carrier, or polymer.

Claims 20-22 (canceled)

Claim 23 (original): The method of Claim 17, wherein said filler material comprises metallic material.